Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, In 2011, an estimated 44,030 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States and 37,660 will die from the disease; and,

Whereas, Pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers and is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States; and,

Whereas, When symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is usually too late for an optimistic prognosis, and 74 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis while 94 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years; and,

Whereas, Of all the racial/ethnic groups in the United States, African Americans have the highest incidence rate of pancreatic cancer. Approximately 110 deaths will occur in South Dakota in 2011; and,

Whereas, There is no cure for pancreatic cancer and there have been no significant improvements in survival rates in the last 40 years; and,

Whereas, The Federal Government invests significantly less money in pancreatic cancer research than it does in any of the other leading cancer killers, and pancreatic cancer research constitutes only approximately 2 percent of the National Cancer Institute's federal research funding, a figure far too low given the severity of the disease, its mortality rate, and how little is known about how to arrest it; and,

Whereas, The good health and well-being of the residents of South Dakota are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes, and effective treatments:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 2011, as

PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eleventh Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason Gant

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State